Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-6 and 24-27 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-6. (Cancelled).

Claim 7. (Original): A method of treatment, comprising administering to a patient suffering from a viral infection a therapeutic amount of a polypeptide having histidine ammonia lyase activity.

Claim 8. (Amended): A method of treatment according to claim 7, wherein the histidine ammonia lyase activity is about 40 IU/mg protein and is not decreased in the presence of L-histidinol or a therapeutic salt thereof and the polypeptide corresponds in sequence to histidine ammonia lyase of *Corynebacteriaceae* or to a fragment thereof which includes the active site, wherein the polypeptide may comprise conservative substitutions relative to the sequence of histidine ammonia lyase of *Corynebacteriaceae*.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 8, wherein the histidine ammonia lyase activity is not decreased in the presence of L-histidinol.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 8, further comprising administering a therapeutic amount of L-histidinol or a therapeutic salt thereof.

Claim 11. (Original): A method according to claim 8, wherein the virus is selected from the group consisting of Herpes Virus Type 1, Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2, Varicella-Zoster Virus, Epstein-Barr virus, Cytomegalovirus, Respiratory Syncytial Virus, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

Claim 12. (Amended): A method for treating a patient suffering from a cancer, comprising administering to the patient suffering from said cancer a therapeutic amount of a

polypeptide having about 40 IU/mg protein of histidine ammonia lyase activity, wherein said histidine ammonia lyase activity is not decreased in the presence of L-histidinol or a therapeutic salt thereof and the polypeptide corresponds in sequence to histidine ammonia lyase of *Corynebacteriaceae* or to a fragment thereof which includes the active site, wherein the polypeptide may comprise conservative substitutions relative to the sequence of histidine ammonia lyase of *Corynebacteriaceae*, and a therapeutic amount of L-histidinol or a therapeutic salt thereof.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented): A method for reducing toxicity to normal cells from chemotherapeutic agents or retroviral vectors, comprising

(i) administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide having histidine ammonia lyase activity, and

(ii) additionally administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a chemotherapeutic agent or retroviral vector, whereby said polypeptide having histidine ammonia lyase activity selectively depletes circulating histidine and causes growth arrest in normal cells, without affecting the growth of tumor cells.

Claim 14. (Original): A method according to claim 13, wherein upon the administration of said polypeptide, non-diseased cells of said patient enter a reversible quiescent state.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 13, wherein the polypeptide is a modified polypeptide that comprises polyethylene glycol.

Claim 16. (Original): A method for delivering an immunosuppressant to a patient, comprising: administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide having histidine ammonia lyase activity, wherein said polypeptide generates trans-urocanic acid (t-UA) *in vivo*; and subjecting the patient to an irradiating agent, wherein said irradiating agent causes the photoisomerization of t-UA to its cis isomer (c-UA), and wherein said cis isomer comprises an immunosuppressive property.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 16, wherein the irradiating agent is UVB irradiation, and wherein the polypeptide comprises polyethylene glycol.

Claim 18. (Original): A method according to claim 17, wherein the patient has an immune system disorder.

Claim 19. (Original): A method according to claim 18, wherein the UVB radiation is localized.

Claim 20. (Original): A method according to claim 16, further comprising administering to the patient a transplanted organ.

Claims 21-27. (Cancelled).

Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawing sheet attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figure 8 is being presented as a new formal drawing sheet to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet of Figure 8. The drawing figure has been amended. The specific change that has been made to Figure 8 is to replace the black box noted by the Examiner with the appropriate graph of the activity versus pH.